

## Amendments to the Specification

1) Please amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 14 and ending on page 4, line 21 as indicated in the following replacement paragraph.

Figure 1 illustrates the front view of a printing services vending machine 10 according to an embodiment of the invention. The front view of the printing services vending machine 10 incorporates a housing unit comprising, an LCD touch screen 20, an output bin 22, slots for an electronic ~~[[magnetic]]~~ media device 24 (for example, magnetic media such as floppy disks or zip disks), a payment terminal 26, and a bin for a cut sheet feeder 28. The LCD touch screen 20 allows a user to interface with the printing services vending machine 10. The LCD touch screen 20 can provide input and/or preview information pertaining to the document. Also, the LCD touch screen 20 is configured to operate in conjunction with the payment terminal 26 in order to input payment information.

2) Please amend the two paragraphs starting on page 5, line 1 and ending on page 5, line 10 as indicated in the following two replacement paragraphs.

Figure 2 illustrates a housing unit of the printing services vending machine ~~[[housing unit]]~~ 10 from the side. The LCD touch screen 20, the output bin 22, the electronic media device 24, payment terminal 26 and cut sheet feeder 28 are shown. Also shown are a printer 30 and a paper supply 32. The printer 30 is well known in the art and the preferred embodiment of the invention would employ a color laser jet printer. The paper supply 32 is automatically fed into the printer 30 upon demand. The paper supply 32 could consist of any of the known types and size of paper, which are well known in the art.

Figure 3 illustrates a block diagram of an architecture 40 of the vending machine 10 accessing electronic document information via the Internet. The elements of the architecture 40 include ~~a user's file~~ a local hard drive or a server 42 which may be used

to store a user's file, a virtual storage unit 44, the Internet 46, and the printing services vending machine 10.

3) Please amends the two paragraphs starting on page 5; line 16 and ending on page 6, line 8 as indicated in the following two replacement paragraphs.

When the user accesses the ~~[[printer]]~~ printing services vending machine 10, the user can use the LCD touch screen 20 to access the electronic document information stored in the virtual storage device 44 via the Internet 46. The user uses the LCD touch screen 20 to specify the electronic document information stored on a virtual storage device 44. The ~~[[printer]]~~ printing services vending ~~[[station]]~~ machine 10 downloads the electronic document information stored in the virtual storage device 44 from the Internet 46 and into the ~~[[printer]]~~ printing services vending machine 10. The transmitter/receiver unit 36, as shown in Figure 4, controls the download. The transmitter/receiver unit 36 receives the electronic document information by conventional methods and converts the downloaded electronic information into a format suitable for printing. The transmitter/receiver unit 36 then sends the downloaded electronic document information to a memory device 38 for storage. Once the payment ~~[[authorization]]~~ terminal 24 has authorized payment, the printer 30 prints the stored electronic document information. The printed sheets are output to the output bin 22.

Fig. 4 illustrates a block diagram of the preferred embodiment the printing service vending machine 10. The elements of the printing service vending machine 10 are the LCD touch screen 20, output bin 22, payment ~~authorization terminal 24~~ terminal 26, electronic media device ~~[[26]]~~ 24, cut sheet feeder 28, printer 30, paper supply 32, controller 34, transmitter and receiver unit 36, and memory device 38.

4) Please amends the two paragraphs starting on page 6, line 17 and ending on page 7, line 8 as indicated in the following two replacement paragraphs.

The electronic media device 24 has a plurality of input ports to be adapted for use with plurality of portable electronic media (e.g., floppy disks, ZIP disks). Also, the electronic media device 24 can be adapted ~~[[to]]~~ for use with PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants) such as Palm, Jornada, Blackberry, and/or various telecommunications devices, in addition to, wireless Internet connections using well-known data squirting techniques. The electronic media device 24 can be of a type known in the art. The electronic media device 24 is coupled to the controller 34. The user, via the LCD touch screen 20, can access the document stored in the electronic media device 24.

The payment ~~authorization~~ terminal 26 can be of a type known in the art. The payment ~~authorization~~ terminal 26 is coupled to the controller 34. The payment ~~authorization~~ terminal 26 has a port where the user inputs a credit card (although the system could be adapted to accept cash). The credit card information would be transmitted (in a known manner) via the transmitter/receiver 36 to a server (not shown) that would authorize the purchase. Once the payment has been authorized, the electronic document information is transferred from the portable electronic media to a memory device 38 by a command from the controller 34.

5) Please amends the three paragraphs starting on page 8, line 8 and ending on page 9, line 7 as indicated in the following three replacement paragraphs.

Figure 5 illustrates a flow chart ~~[[50]]~~ showing a method 50 of operating the printing services vending machine 10, in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the invention. The method 50 begins when the printing services vending machine 10 is requested to print a document (step 52). Once the request has been verified, the printing services vending machine 10 retrieves the electronic data representing the document via either a network, such as the Internet 46 (as discussed above with regards to Figure 3), or from a portable media device stored in the ~~electronic media device 26~~ electronic media

device 24. In the case of a portable media device, a user indicates via the LCD touch screen 20 that the electronic document information will be input via the electronic media device 24 (step 54). ~~Once user~~ For example, once the user has input a magnetic disk, the LCD touch screen 20 is used to determine the particular electronic document that is to be printed. The user employs the LCD touch screen 20 to make selections of the various types of printing features available (e.g. number of copies). The specified electronic information is read from the electronic media device 24 into storage memory device 38.

Once the electronic data has been retrieved, the printing services vending machine 10 authorizes payment information for the requested printing services (step 56). The LCD touch screen 20 communicates the payment information with the controller 34 and the payment ~~authorization~~ terminal 26. The user is then requested to provide payment information via either a credit card or cash. Once the payment has been authorized in a conventional manner, the user selects to print the document.

The printing operation (step 58) is performed on the electronic document information using either paper from the paper supply 32 or paper manually input via the cut sheet feeder 28. The printed sheets are output to the output bin 22. The processing steps just described can be performed in a different order (or even simultaneously), as those skilled in the art should appreciate.